



SDSU ATHLETICS GUIDE FOR AZTEC SUPPORTERS

INTRODUCTION

SDSU Athletics is proud to have your loyal support, dedication, and enthusiasm for the Aztecs. As we strive for continued excellence, we always seek the highest standard of ethical conduct. Adhering to NCAA legislation is the responsibility of everyone associated with, or supportive of, the university. In helping SDSU Athletics achieve its goal of a higher purpose, we are asking for your assistance in continuing to build compliance awareness. If you have any questions or become aware of any potential rules violations, please contact the SDSU Athletics Compliance Office at: SDSU Athletics Compliance
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182
(619) 594-3395
goaztecscompliance@mail.sdsu.edu
@AztecCompliance

TERMS TO KNOW

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE (PSA OR RECRUIT)

- Any student who has started classes for the ninth grade or above (seventh grade for particular men's basketball rules).
- A student of any age if the institution provides benefits to the student that the institution does not provide prospective students in general.
- A student remains a prospect until the start of classes or official team practice at SDSU. Signing a National Letter of Intent (NLI) does not remove the status of prospect.

RECRUITING

Any solicitation of a prospect or a prospect's family by an authorized institutional staff member for the purpose of securing the prospect's enrollment and participation in athletics.

CONTACT

Any face-to-face encounter between a prospect or a prospect's legal guardian and an institutional staff member or booster during which any dialogue occurs in excess of a greeting.

EVALUATION

Any activity designed to assess the academic qualifications or athletic ability of a prospect, including any visit to a prospect's school or the observation of a prospect participating in any practice or competition.

RECRUITING INDUCEMENT

A recruiting inducement under NCAA rules is any special gift or arrangement provided to a prospective student-athlete that is not available to the general public. The arrangement of such a benefit would be considered an improper incentive to encourage the eventual enrollment of a prospective student-athlete at SDSU.

STUDENT-ATHLETE

A student who presently is participating in intercollegiate athletics or has participated in intercollegiate athletics and is still receiving athletics aid.

EXTRA BENEFIT

An extra benefit is a special gift or arrangement provided to a student-athlete, or a student-athlete's friend, or family member, which is not available to the general public or SDSU student body.

Examples of a Recruiting Inducement or Extra Benefit:

- Use of an automobile or transportation.
- Admission to an event (e.g., movies, athletics events, banquets, clubs, special events/parties, concerts, etc.).
- Cash or loans in any amount.
- Gifts of any kind, including those on special occasions such as birthdays, religious holidays, graduation, etc.
- Free or reduced-cost services, rentals, or purchase of any kind (e.g., meals, drinks, clothing, haircuts, tattoos, legal fees, rounds of golf, car repairs, etc.).





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- Free or reduced-cost housing for any length of time.
- Entertainment.
- Payment of bills (e.g., cell phone, gas money, rent, etc.).
- Loans (including co-signing).
- Academic assistance of any kind (e.g., tutoring, editing papers/projects, assistance in completing classwork, use of computer, etc.).

REPRESENTATIVE OF ATHLETICS INTEREST (BOOSTER)

A booster is an individual, independent agency, corporate entity, or other organization that is known to have:

- Provided a donation to obtain season tickets for any sport with SDSU Athletics.
- Participated in or has been a member of an organization promoting any SDSU Athletics program (e.g., SDSU Alumni Association, Aztec Varsity Club, sport supporter groups, etc.).
- Made financial contributions to the athletics department or to a university booster organization.
- Arranged for or provided employment for enrolled student-athletes.
- Assisted or has been requested by university staff to assist in the recruiting of prospective student-athletes.
- Assisted in providing benefits to enrolled student-athletes or their families.
- Been involved otherwise in promoting SDSU Athletics.

This list is not exhaustive. Please contact the SDSU Athletics Compliance Office if you have any questions about your possible status as a booster. Remember, once you are identified as a booster, you retain that identity forever. Boosters are bound by NCAA, conference affiliates, and SDSU rules, policies, and guidelines. As a result, boosters are responsible for notifying the SDSU Athletics Compliance Office of any potential rules violations. Even if a violation is unintentional, the eligibility of a prospect (recruit) or enrolled student-athlete could be in jeopardy.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES

As a booster, the NCAA restricts the involvement that you may have with prospective student-athletes. Only coaches and authorized employees may be involved in the recruiting process. NCAA rules prohibit boosters from engaging in recruiting activities designated to secure a prospect's enrollment at SDSU.

Permissible Booster Activities:

- Continuing to have contact with an established family friend or neighbor who is a prospect (contact the Compliance Office to register a pre-existing relationship – must complete to ensure eligibility).
- Viewing a prospect's game on your own initiative.
- Receiving a phone call from a prospect only if the prospect initiates the call and it is not for recruiting purposes.
- Notifying the SDSU Athletics coaching staff of prospects.

Impermissible Booster Activities:

- Providing recruiting inducements to a prospect or his/her family or friends.
- Contacting or calling a prospect that you do not have a longstanding relationship with (the relationship most commonly must pre-date the ninth grade).
- Contacting or calling a prospect's parent, coach, principal, counselor or any other individual associated with the prospect.
- Assisting with the actual evaluation of talent at the direction of an SDSU Athletics coaching staff member.
- Promoting SDSU Athletics in any way to encourage a prospect to attend SDSU (e.g., fan page for prospect, contact the prospect on social media, etc.).





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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

May a prospect call a booster?

Yes. A prospect may call a booster at his/her own expense. A booster may speak to the prospect only if the prospect initiates the call and the call is not prearranged by an institutional staff member. Discussion must be limited to general SDSU topics. All inquiry related to athletics must be deferred to the athletics department.

May a booster call a prospect or send a congratulatory letter once the prospect has committed to or signed an NLI with SDSU?

No. He/she remains a prospect until the first day of enrollment or his/her first official day of practice. Until that time, he/she remains a prospect and the same rules apply, even after signing an NLI.

May a booster pay for a prospect's expenses or fees to attend camp?

No. An exception is if the prospect is an immediate family member of the booster.

May a booster speak to a prospect who is accompanied by an SDSU coach?

No. If an SDSU coach is with a prospect during his/her visit to SDSU, a booster may not approach the coach until the prospect and his/her family are no longer on the institution's campus.

Is it permissible for a booster to accompany an SDSU coach when he/she visits a local high school or prospect's home?

No. A booster may not accompany a coach during any recruiting activities.

ENROLLED STUDENT-ATHLETES

As a booster, the NCAA restricts the involvement that you may have with student-athletes. NCAA rules prohibit boosters from providing a student-athlete with an extra benefit, and doing so may result in the student-athlete being declared ineligible to compete on behalf of SDSU Athletics. Extra benefit violations include any special gift or arrangement provided to a student-athlete, a student-athlete's friend, or family member that is not available to the general public or SDSU student body.

Permissible Booster Activities:

- Employing student-athletes (see employment section of this document).
- Hosting a meal at your home or at the SDSU Athletics facilities on an occasional basis only if the meal has been approved by the SDSU Athletics Compliance office prior to the meal occurring.
- Speaking with student-athletes at athletics events, banquets, etc.
- Obtaining a personalized autograph from a student-athlete for personal use only. Autographs that are sold or exchanged for anything of value will result in a violation that will jeopardize his/her eligibility.

Impermissible Booster Activities:

- Providing extra benefits to a student-athlete or his/her family or friends.
- Using a student-athlete's name, image or likeness to promote a business, service or product.
- Selling or trading a student-athlete's autograph for anything of value.
- Entering into an agreement with an agent on behalf of a student-athlete.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

May a booster receive a ticket to an athletics event from a current student-athlete?

No. At SDSU, boosters are not permitted to receive a complimentary admission or to purchase a ticket from a current student-athlete or his/her family members.



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May a booster purchase an item that belongs to a current student-athlete or is signed by a current student-athlete?

No. A booster may not purchase an item that belongs to a current student-athlete or is signed by a current student-athlete. If a current student-athlete attempts to sell his/her personal item to a booster, it will immediately jeopardize his/her eligibility at SDSU. This includes purchasing gear, apparel, jerseys, helmets, gloves, game balls, awards (e.g., conference rings), shoes, cleats, etc.

May a booster speak with a student-athlete at an athletics event or banquet?

Yes. Communication with current student-athletes at an athletics event or banquet is not restricted under NCAA rules.

May a booster provide a student-athlete with a nominal gift for a special event (e.g., birthday, religious holiday, wedding, graduation, etc.)?

No. Provision of any gift, including a gift of nominal value, is considered an extra benefit under NCAA rules and receipt of such benefits will jeopardize the eligibility of the student-athlete.

May a booster host a meal for current student-athletes?

Yes. A booster may host a meal on an occasional basis for any number of current student-athletes, provided the meal is approved by the SDSU Athletics Compliance Office prior to occurring. Meals may only be hosted in the booster's home or in an SDSU Athletics facility.

EMPLOYMENT OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE

Employment of a student-athlete is permissible provided all of the following conditions are met:

- The student-athlete is only paid for the work actually performed.
- The student-athlete is paid at the rate commensurate with the going rate in that locale for similar services.
- A student-athlete's name, image or likeness may not be used to promote the business, company, service or goods.
- The student-athlete is not compensated in any manner for any value or utility that he/she may have

for an employer because of any publicity, reputation, fame or personal following that he/she may have obtained because of his/her athletics ability.

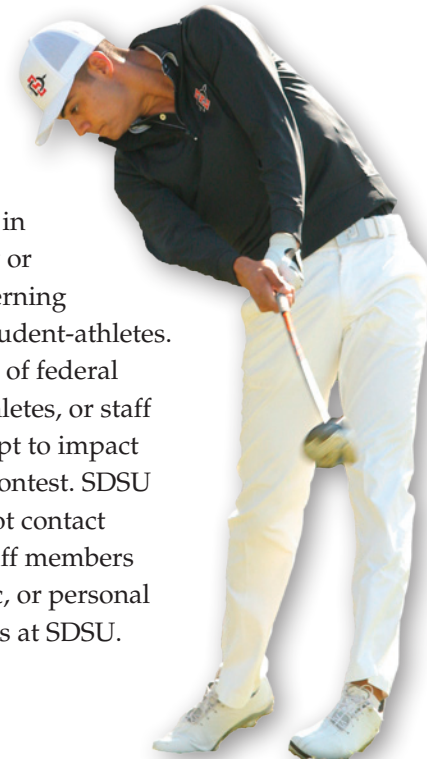
- Student-athletes must register all employment with the SDSU Athletics Compliance Office prior to beginning work.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES: STUDENT-ATHLETES

- Student-athletes are not eligible for participation in intercollegiate athletics if he/she accepts compensation or permits the use of his/her name or pictures to promote a commercial enterprise.
- A student-athlete's name or picture may not be used to advertise, recommend, or promote the sale or use of a commercial product or service of any kind.
- If a student-athlete's name or picture appears on commercial items (e.g., t-shirts, posters, photographs, etc.) or is used to promote a commercial product without the student-athlete's knowledge or permission, the student-athlete and the institution are required to take steps to stop such activity in order to retain the student-athlete's eligibility.

GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

NCAA rules prohibit student-athletes and athletics department staff members from participating in any sports gambling activity or providing information concerning private information about student-athletes. Additionally, it is a violation of federal law for boosters, student-athletes, or staff members to impact or attempt to impact the outcome of a collegiate contest. SDSU Athletics asks that you do not contact student-athletes or SDSU staff members regarding medical, academic, or personal issues of any student-athletes at SDSU.





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SOCIAL MEDIA REMINDER

SDSU Athletics asks that boosters do not initiate or accept friend requests from prospects on Facebook and do not follow prospects on Twitter, Instagram, or any other social media platform. Boosters should never post on a prospect's wall, reply to a tweet, send him/her any kind of direct message, or take any other action that would constitute contact with a prospect. This prohibition also includes creating fan pages for prospects to attend SDSU. Please remember recruiting conversation between boosters and prospective student-athletes is prohibited. We thank you for your support, but also request that you leave the recruiting to the SDSU Athletics coaching staff members.

NCAA RULES: TEN TIPS FOR SUPPORTERS OF AZTEC ATHLETICS

1. The NCAA holds SDSU accountable for the actions of its supporters. This means that if you are involved with NCAA violations (known or unknown), SDSU may have to forfeit games, entire seasons, scholarships, recruiting opportunities, or may be prohibited from participating in post-season competition.
2. You may send information about prospects to SDSU Athletics coaching staff members.
3. You may continue established relationships with friends and neighbors whose children are prospects or current student-athletes, provided the relationship pre-dates the ninth grade and is not based on his/her status as an athlete (must register with the Compliance Office).
4. You may not be involved in recruiting prospective student-athletes on behalf of SDSU. A prospective student-athlete is defined as a student who has started classes for the ninth grade or above (seventh grade for particular men's basketball rules).
5. You may not become involved in arranging for a prospect, an SDSU student-athlete, or an SDSU student-athlete's friends or family to receive money or financial assistance of any kind.
6. You may not provide transportation to a prospect, student-athlete, or his/her friends and family.
7. You may not spend funds to entertain prospects, student-athletes, or his/her friends and family.
8. You may not use a photo or name of a student-athlete for commercial purposes or for the sale of student-athlete memorabilia.
9. Breaking NCAA rules can render prospects and student-athletes ineligible to compete on behalf of SDSU Athletics.
10. Always ask before you act.

